



WSCAC-WAC-MWRA Advisory Board Virtual Meeting

September 16, 2021—10:00 A.M.

Members in Bold in Attendance:

Michael Baram, WSCAC Chair, BU & CLF
Whitney Beals, NE Forestry
William Copithorne, Town of Arlington
Steven Daunais, Tata & Howard
Andrea Donlon, CT River Conservancy
Gerald Eves, Trout Unlimited
Bill Fadden, OARS

Bill Kiley, BWSC, WSCAC
Paul Lauenstein, NepRWA
Martha Morgan, Nashua River Watershed
Martin Pillsbury, MAPC
Janet Rothrock, League of Women Voters
Kurt Tramposch, Wayland Wells
Bruce Spencer, retired DCR Chief Forester

Non-Members in Attendance:

Lexi Dewey, WSCAC staff
Andreae Downs, WAC staff
MWRA and MWRA Advisory Board staff

Fred Laskey-MWRA Exec. Director
Joe Favaloro-Advisory Board Director
MWRA Advisory Board Members
WAC and WSCAC Members

WSCAC Business

The meeting opened with Lou Taverna, MWRA Advisory Board Chair, welcoming everyone to the September joint meeting with WAC and WSCAC. He introduced the first presenter, Fred Laskey.

Fred Laskey, MWRA Executive Director, presented *MWRA Updates*. This presentation is available here, https://www.mwraadvisoryboard.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/1_MWRA-Presentation.pdf and on the [WSCAC website](#). The presentation covered:

- Covid Update at MWRA
- 2020 Census –Impact on FY23 Sewer Rates
- CSO Program Update
- Construction Projects
- Waltham land purchase for the Tunnel Program
- PFAS in MWRA drinking water (trace) and wastewater samples
- Space Planning-Leaving CNY in 2023 and moving to Deer Island and the MWRA Chelsea facility
- MWRA staff retirements
- AWWA-MWRA water named “Best of the Best”

Details on each of these topics are available in the presentation.

The MWRA Advisory Board staff gave the next presentation, *Advisory Board FY22 Priorities* available here, https://www.mwraadvisoryboard.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/2_Advisory-Board-Presentation.pdf and on the WSCAC website. The presentation covered:

- Sustainable & Predictable Rates
- PFAS-Regionalization option of communities affected by PFAS contamination

- Watershed Operations-Staffing and Spending
- Deer Island NPDES Permit update
- Residuals/MWRA Biosolids

Details on each of these topics are available in the presentation.

Andreae Downs, Executive Director of WAC, gave a brief overview of priorities for the committee in FY22:

- PFAS in wastewater
- Maintenance/Flooding
- Deer Island NPDES permit
- Combined Heat & Power Study
- CSO Program update
- MWRA budget
- WAC leadership
- Wipes legislation update

Lexi Dewey, Executive Director of WSCAC, discussed priorities for the committee in FY22:

- Progress on the Metropolitan Tunnel Program-Working group updates
- System Expansion-The effect of PFAS and/or other contaminants found in communities outside the MWRA service area that may encourage these communities to join MWRA as full or partial users.
- Movement of hazardous materials by rail-The sale of Pan Am to CSX and the opportunity to increase safety measures to avoid a potential accident near the Wachusett Reservoir.
- Update on MWRA's progress toward reducing their carbon footprint. Possible joint meeting with WAC on proposed CHP project.
- The return of green certification for DCR watershed lands.

Lou Taverna concluded advisory board business and called for a vote to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned.

**WSCAC will next meet for a virtual joint meeting with WAC on October 8, 2021 at 10:30 AM
Please [visit our website](#) for more information on this meeting.**